Irregularities in implementing MPLADS

2057. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has found lapses in MPs schemes;

(b) if so, whether according to the CAG, there are several irregularities in implementing the scheme and no periodic reviews were carried out every year;

(c) whether the latest report of the CAG has highlighted these lapses; and

(d) if so, whether Government have considered the CAG's report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The Comptroller & Auditor General of India (C&AG) in their Report NO. 3A of 2001 have pointed out certain instances of non-compliance of Guidelines on MPLADS. Some of these are as follows:

(i) Execution of inadmissible works

(ii) Sanction of works for commercial and private organisations

(iii) Irregular sanction of repair and maintenance works

(iv) Purchases of stores

(v) Expenditure on places of religious worship

(vi) Expenditure on memorials

(vii) Execution of works without recommendation of the MPs.

(viii) Inspection of 10% works every year by DCs was not conducted.

(d) The State Governments have been requested to investigate the cases reported and take remedial action. They have also been

requested to take necessary steps so that the shortcomings pointed out by C&AG do not recur in future, including assessing the progress of works under MPLADS, atleast once a year, by the Chief Secretaries/Administrators involving Heads of Districts and MPs.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 20TH MARCH, 2002*

Rural development projects approved for Assam

*241. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received by Central Government from the State of Assam for rural development schemes for its approval during the last three years; and

(b) the year-wise/scheme-wise projects approved so far?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) Central Assistance for Rural Development Schemes is, generally, released to the States/Union Territories in two Instalments in a year, except in the case of Schemes/Programmes which are project-based. While the release of Central share as First Instalment is automatic (subject to fulfilment of conditions of release, as laid down in the Guidelines of the scheme/programme), the Second Instalment is released upon receipt of specific proposals to this effect from the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

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*The Sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, the 20th March, 2002 was adjourned as a mark of respect to the memory of Shri Dayanand Sahay, a sitting Member of the Rajya Sabha Answers to Questions put down in the list for that day were laid on the table of the House on Thursday, the 21st March, 2002.